

Serial No. 09/511,445
Group Art Unit: 1638

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejects Claims 5-6, 10-15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Gordon-Kamm et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,284,947, issued September 4, 2001. In the Office Action dated June 9, 2003, the Examiner suggested that the rejection would be overcome by submitting a statement of common ownership at the time the invention was made.

Applicants respectfully traverse. But in order to expedite allowance of the application, the Applicants have submitted a "statement of common ownership at the time of the inventions were made".

Double Patenting

The Examiner rejects Claims 5-6, 10-15, and 17 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,284,947, for reasons of record set forth in the office action mailed June 9, 2003. In the Office Action dated June 9, 2003, the Examiner suggested that the rejection would be overcome by submitting a terminal disclaimer.

Applicants respectfully traverse. But in order to expedite allowance of the application, the Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer.

In light of the foregoing action, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of claims 5-6, 10-15, and 17 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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